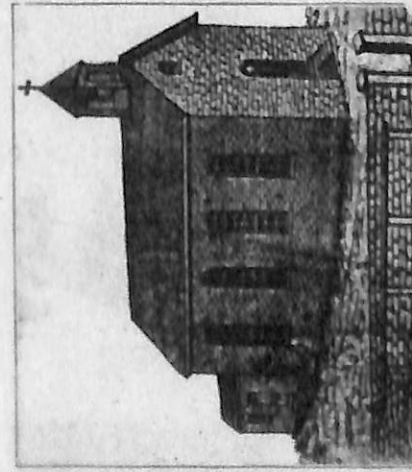


ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF CATHOLIC FAITH

AT
ST. PHILOMENA PARISH
STONELICK, OHIO



SECOND CHURCH—1887

Gallagher, the Rev. M. F. Russell attended St. Philomena Church as a Mission from St. Andrew Church, Milford.

At the appointment of Father Henry Meyer, February, 1911, residence was again taken up at Stonelick. During his pastorate, Holy Trinity Church, Batavia, which was dedicated October 16, 1910, was attached to St. Philomena Church as a Mission. Father Meyer was appointed the first pastor of Holy Trinity Church. Father Meyer remained until 1918, when Father Louis Evers assumed charge. Nine years of zealous and active pastoral work was accomplished by Father Evers who gave his time to both parishes at Stonelick and Batavia.

In September, 1927, Father Earl Binette was transferred from Holy Family Church, Cincinnati, to St. Philomena Church. He spent four years as a country pastor; giving his time and attention to the two parishes. Many improvements about the Church and parish house were made by Father Binette. He won many friends among the Catholic and non-Catholic people of Clermont County. In 1931, he was appointed pastor of St. Martin parish, St. Martin, Brown County, Ohio. At the present time, he has charge of St. Mary Church, Springfield, Ohio.

July 3, 1931, the present pastor, Rev. Edward Stuhlmueller was sent as pastor of St. Philomena and Holy Trinity Parishes. During the past eight years, some of the old rustic charm has been taken from Stonelick by the introduction of electric current, improved roads and dial telephones — the touch of modern conveniences. As a part of this brief historical sketch, we wish to express our gratitude to the good people of St. Philomena Parish, and to the donors who remembered the Church of their love and devotion.

Mr. and Mrs. George Bender, former parishioners, presented to St. Philomena Church a beautiful statue of The Blessed Virgin Mary which was placed in a stone grotto on the church grounds. The foundation of the grotto was laid by the men of the parish. The stone masonry was constructed by Gordon Feiertag. When completed the grotto was blessed and presented to The Blessed Mother by the children as they crowned Her The Queen of May.

The fifty-nine-year-old parish house was painted, while the modern conveniences of electric lights, refrigerator and gas stove were installed as a trend toward comforts of today. The old barn which had served as a stable during the horse and buggy days of



Rev. Charles Wiedenhold
1887 - 1895



Rev. Isaac J. Hocter
1895 - 1897



Rev. John Cunningham
1897 - 1903

Fathers Hocter, Cunningham and Gallagher; and later, as a garage, for the Schacht "horseless buggy" introduced by Father Meyer to challenge the solitude and muddy roads of Stonelick—the old barn was torn down and the lumber was placed in a new garage. It was through the generous bequest of Father Henry Meyer (Pastor of St. Philomena Church, 1910-1918) that the interior of the Church was painted and redecorated at a cost of \$634.00. In his last will and testament, Father Meyer expressed a loving memory for the church and people who were associated with him during his pastorate of eight years. In the Souvenir Booklet, on the occasion of the Diamond jubilee, twenty-five years ago, Father Meyer wrote: "the Catholic parish of Stonelick breathes the charm of the busy country in contrast to the gloom of lonely towns and cities. The appeal and surroundings of Stonelick are irresistible to the lover of nature."

During the Summer of 1938, new Stations were erected in preparation for the Centennial Year, and as gifts of the families of the parish. The donors of the stations are commemorated as follows:

Mr. and Mrs. William Craver.
Mr. and Morris Bristol.
Mrs. Ella Rapp



Rev. Fred Gallagher
1903 - 1906

Matilda Rein, in memory of Rose Rein Family.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Feiertag.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Craver, in memory of Thomas and Elizabeth Egan.

Mr. and Mrs. Albert Hess and Family.

In memory of the Verkamp Family.

John Ohmer Family, in memory of John Ohmer.

A. J. Paul Family.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Yeager.

Rev. Edward Stuhlmueller.

In appreciation for his faith and as a gift to the "little Church at Stonelick," Mr. John Barnickel, who received Holy Communion for the first time in St. Philomena Church, October 28, 1877, presented to the Church a beautiful statue of our Patron Saint. It is before this statue of Saint Philomena that the people kneel in reverence to Her and in gratitude to God — her God, and our God Whom we have worshipped for these hundred years of Catholic Faith at Stonelick.

**The Pastors of
St. Philomena Church**
1840 - 1848—Rev. Claude Gacon and Rev. William Chemoyl, from St. Martin Church, Brown Co.